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Thinkers never look long for a job.

The
Modern Farmer
and Busy Bee

A FRIEND OF ADVANCED AGRICULTURE AND HAPPY HOMES.

VOL. XVII No. 7

Devoted to the Interests of the Farm and Home.

FIFTY CENTS A YEAR.

➤ JULY ☽

“The world is crying for men of intelligence. It is searching for them everywhere. The door of opportunity is open, as it has never been open before, for men who have minds even a fraction above what is necessary for a routine muscular task. It doesn't matter whether a man be poor or rich, or what his color or creed or origin, he has a better chance now than if he lived a generation ago; that is, if he can bring intelligence to his work.

“This is the golden age for men of brains, even a little brains, and I'd rather, much rather, take my chances now, without a friend or a dollar in my pocket, than to go back even twenty years.

“The world is growing better and stronger all the time, and the invitation to think is becoming almost irresistible in every branch of human effort. This is raising the race higher and higher.

“As science is applied to industry more and more the rewards of intelligence grow greater, and to-day there are in thousands of factories 'suggestion boxes' into which workmen are urged to drop any ideas that may occur to them—so hungry are those who direct business to advance men capable of advancement.”—Quoted from Thomas A. Edison in Pearson's Magazine.

ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

1906

FARM NOTES

TRY THIS PLAN.

If you are on a farm and feel discontented and restless, wanting to go to some other country or state, hoping to better your condition, suppose you study the problem over with a view to making your condition better right where you are. If the farm is wet, tile it; if run down, sow more clover and fertilize it. If crops are poor, try rotation, more cows and more grass. If the home is old and tumble down and barns and outbuildings poor, build new ones as far as you can and fix the others up. If you and your family feel isolated and lonesome, put in a telephone and take a good daily paper, keeping you in touch with the world. If you have too much work, you probably have too much land. Sell a part and take a little comfort while you live. It will cost a man not far from \$1,000 to sell out, pull up and get settled somewhere else, counting everything connected with such a transfer. Put the \$1,000 on the old place, and the chances are no man could buy you out. If you don't like your neighbors, perhaps it's your fault, for a man makes his neighbors usually good or bad, as the case may be. There is no elysium on earth, no spot where trouble, care and disappointment never come.

SHEEP OR COW.

A young man owning eighty acres of improved land in Minnesota wants to know if he could not profitably substitute sheep for the cow, the cow not making him money fast enough to pay off a pretty good sized mortgage which rests on his land. We are inclined to think he would make a bad mistake to make this exchange. If his dairy is not paying him it may be that he had better test his cows and see if he has not got a lot of lady boarders and not money makers. The cows which he should keep on his small farm should bring him in an income of \$50 per year. The cow is the poor man's best friend, and if she cannot when well cared for pull a fellow out of the hole the sheep would never do it. While a few sheep can be made to pay well on almost any western farm, the exclusive sheep farm seldom does. There are so many ups and downs to the sheep business, rapid changes in value of both sheep and product, that they disqualify the sheep from competing with the cow and the hog in all our corn belt territory.

THE MODERN ENGLISH FARM.

The English farm of fifty years ago was a very different proposition from the modern American farm of today. There land was high priced and labor

very, very cheap, and so it came that nearly all farm work was done by hand labor—the sowing and planting, the cultivation of the crops, the reaping and mowing and thrashing, all tediously and patiently wrought out by hand. Land rents were high, from \$10 to \$15 per acre. The price of farm produce was correspondingly high, American competition not being then known. The laboring men employed on such farms were fixtures—in fact, almost a part of the farm itself—and were contented in their ignorance with their humble lot, their plain fare and their beer. The families were large, the poorhouse generally full. Continued

emigration and American competition in farm produce have changed conditions, and today modern machinery does a large part of the work on the English farm.

J. C. TRIGG.

ST. JOSEPH VETERINARY COLLEGE

A complete theoretical and practical course in Veterinary Medicine. Term of three sessions of six months each. Full information and catalog upon application. Address Dr. C. E. Steele, Dean, 7th and Sylvania Streets.

Break Ground in the Southwest

The prospects were never brighter than at present.

Each season a new record is made in production and output.

Farming land is advancing in price as steadily as it produces.

Very naturally, then, the time for action—the time to break ground, is now, while lands can be secured for a small fraction of their coming value.

The climatic conditions of the Southwest should be taken into consideration, also. The winters are short and the climate a happy mean between the extremes of the North and South.

To enable you to investigate the Southwest and to satisfy yourself that they are all they are claimed to be, the Rock Island will sell, on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, greatly reduced tickets to Southwestern points.

If you are not satisfied with your present conditions and prospects and want to get "outdoors" for an active life, for a successful career in the NEW SOUTHWEST, write me to-day.

JOHN SEBASTIAN,

Passenger Traffic Manager, Rock Island System,
CHICAGO.

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If this paragraph is marked with a cross your time expires with the number marked. The paper will be stopped unless you send us 25 cents for renewal. DO IT TO-DAY.

EDITORIAL.

Patronize your county and state fairs, but first of all use your influence to have them real agricultural fairs, and not gambling dens and a place for the exhibition of vulgar and demoralizing fakes.



The Breeders' Gazette puts a world of suggestion in a very few words, as follows: "If moisture does not come from above, bring it up from below and hold it. Use the dust mulch." The farmer who has learned to follow this advice is master of the situation most anywhere or any season. This might well be called the farmer's first rule for success, especially with the corn crop.



It is one thing to produce a crop and it is another thing to market it. The farmer who knows both how to produce and sell a crop is fortunate, for he is in a position to reap the benefit of two profits. If he is not a good salesman, as well as a good producer, it will pay him in the end to confine his work to production and let someone else reap the profits of salesmanship. We may say what we please about the useless middleman, it yet remains true that he helps the farmer in many cases to get more out of his crop than he could possibly get if he undertook to market it himself. No farmer should forget,

however, that the most profitable way to market most crops is on foot. Corn, hay and straw will generally bring more money fed to some kind of live stock than in any other way, and will leave the farm richer for the production of other crops, if consumed at home.



Did you ever notice how many human traits there are in animals? How they will show their appreciation of any aid you give them when they are injured or ill, and how they will ask for what they want, and how they will seem to look their thanks, if nothing else, when they get it? Nothing but beastliness or thoughtlessness could be cruel to a helpless animal. Be kind to your animals, not as a mere sentiment, but because their actions show that they appreciate kindness, and they merit it for what they are in themselves.



When stacking hay, it is a good plan to put it on the highest ground in the field, and after the stack is finished, go around the stack at the bottom with a fork and pull out all the loose hay you can. This will be just that much hay saved, as the loose hay around the bottom is sure to spoil, if the stack is left any length of time. If hay is stacked on low ground, the moisture from the soil will spoil very much more of the hay than it would if the stack was placed on a hill.



The farmer who has never grown a crop of alfalfa should at once interview some neighbor who has and learn how much forage per acre he has secured in this season of drouth. While the Timothy fields have been dried up so short that it hardly paid to harvest them, the alfalfa has flourished like a "green bay tree" and gone on growing in spite of the dry weather. It pays to grow a forage crop that flourishes, wet or dry, and after it is once thoroughly established never fails to give its owner good returns for the time and money invested.



A farmer does not need a large library, like a lawyer, a preacher or a doctor, but the farmer who thinks that books are of no value on the farm makes a serious mistake. Every family especially where there are children, should own a good dictionary, not a ten cent one, but one that will meet every requirement; an encyclopedia, and books treating on every special industry on the farm. These books can be purchased one at a time, and in a few years the farmer and his family will have within reach

information which will enable them to meet every emergency.

New discoveries are being made all the time and the result of these discoveries is being embodied in books which are sold at a price that puts them within the reach of everyone, so there is no excuse for not being up with the times.



We spoke last month of the progress that has been made in veterinary science and mentioned the fact that there was a demand for skilled and trained men in this work. This demand has been greatly increased by the passage of the meat inspection bill, as the government will need about four hundred trained men at the packing house centers in order to enforce the law. Here is an excellent opening for young men who are ambitious and have a love for such work. Of course, the foundation must be laid by a thorough course in some veterinary school, but such a course can be taken with the full assurance that profitable employment awaits every industrious and sober young man who is fully equipped for such work.



If the saloon keeper is engaged in a legitimate business and wants to deal fairly and honorably with his fellow men, why is it that he defies public sentiment and disregards the wholesome and reasonable laws of the land? Why is it that he is the enemy of every officer, from the president down to a constable who tries to enforce the laws which have been enacted by the people to regulate the liquor traffic? The simple truth of the matter is that he is engaged in a business that depends on the depravity and vices of humanity for its perpetuity. The saloon is not a necessity to anybody, and no one becomes a patron of it until he has developed an abnormal appetite, for no one is born with a thirst for such things. If a saloon is a business proposition, like other business propositions, why not close it at 6 o'clock on Saturday and let it remain closed until Monday morning?



It is hard for one to realize the danger there is in barbed wire until one has had some experience along that line, such as we have been having for the last three weeks. We had a valuable brood mare that came near cutting off her right fore foot, and we are not sure yet, in spite of the fact that we called a skilled veterinarian at once, that she will ever be of any value, if she does not finally die from the effects of the wound; which means a clear loss of \$150, in addition to

what it will cost for the services of a veterinarian. You may say there is no use of having a horse cut on barbed wire, it all comes from loose wires, or wires that are not stretched properly. That is what we thought once, but this mare put her foot through a wire fence where the wires were as tight as a drum head and were not more than four inches apart. We do not know how she did it, we only know that we found her in the morning lying about fifty feet from where she was hurt, and nearly dead from loss of blood. We have been looking the matter up and have come to the conclusion that no farmer can afford to take the chances of using barbed wire under any circumstances. If one could figure up the amount of loss that comes to the country every year from the use of barbed wire, we are sure it would be more than enough to pay for a good fence of some other kind. Our slogan from this time on will be no compromise with the barbed wire fiend, barbed wire must go and *stay gone*.



Those of our readers who have read our corn articles are in possession of some very valuable information, which they will find it profitable to put into practice another year where it is too late to utilize it this year. There is another branch of this subject to which we desire to call special attention now, for it means many dollars to the readers of the Modern Farmer. For years we have been writing of the value of corn fodder as a forage crop, and we again want to urge upon our readers the importance of caring for this part of the crop properly.

There is not more than half a hay crop and it is now retailing for \$11.00 per ton in this market. It therefore stands the farmer in hand to save everything that may be used as a substitute for hay. It will pay our readers who have stock to feed to cut up every acre of corn and look after it properly. It is not necessary for us to say anything about the feeding value of well cured and properly cared for corn fodder, for every intelligent farmer knows that horses and cattle eat it with great relish, and where they have plenty of it thrive with but little grain. If you have a good corn crop and neglect to save all of it, and find yourself short of forage next winter, please remember that we have been saying for years that nearly half the value of a corn crop is in the blades and stalks, if properly looked after, and that no one even in a year of plenty, much less one of a short hay crop like this, can afford to grow a crop and let a good portion of it go to waste.

Sometimes an abundance of anything does not mean prosperity, neither does it mean that a large number of people have their wants supplied. The peach crop in this locality this season is a good illustration of this fact. If there had not been more than one-half as many peaches, the peaches would have been much better and they would have brought the producer more money than the present crop; and we are not so sure but the general prosperity would have been greater than it will be with the present crop. For some reason the average man or woman does not appreciate a thing when it is cheap.

Of course, an over production of a non-perishable crop would be different, as it could be stored for future consumption. We venture to throw out the hint that it will pay even the farmer to make a liberal use of fruit cans this season, as it may be a long time again before we get another crop of peaches. Peaches will taste just as good this winter and the winter following as they would if they were worth more money now. If they are canned properly they will be just as good three years from now as they will be next winter. Peaches and other canned fruits are frequently spoiled by using lids that are covered with germs. It will pay to boil the lids that have been used once and thus make sure that they do not furnish nidus for the germs that mean spoiled fruit. People sometimes say that they cannot afford to can fruit, as the sugar costs so much. It is not necessary to use sugar to can fruit. It will keep just as well without sugar as with it. It is true some people like it better if the sugar is put in when it is first cooked, but for our own part we prefer to sweeten it, if at all, with extracted honey. This, however, has nothing to do with the keeping qualities of the fruit, neither is it merely a matter of taste, for honey is much more healthy for most people, and we are not sure but it would be better to eat the fruit without any kind of sweetening in it.

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In the passage of the pure food bill the people have gained a great victory. The battle for the meat inspection bill was short and furious, and this, no doubt, helped the pure food bill. This fight has been a long one, but thanks to the persistency of a few loyal workers, the fight has been kept up and victory, or at least partial victory, for some concessions made weakened the bill as originally drawn, very materially, came at last, or will come January the first. It is a

question in the mind of the editor why the bill was not made to take effect at once, or at most in thirty days. Why should a highway robber be given six months to quit the business? The mixers have been robbing the people for at least a quarter of a century, and it seems they should be content to stop without six months probation. If they are not, we think they should be made to stop, anyway. We take special pride in this victory for pure food, as the editor of the Modern Farmer was a representative of the National Beekeepers' Association, and helped draft the pure food bill which passed with but very few changes from what it was when it came from our committee. Secretary Wilson has been an aggressive friend of the bill from the start, but the people probably owe more to Dr. Wiley, Chief Chemist of the United States, than to any other person for the final passage of the bill. He has kept up the fight, at times almost single handed, and by bulletins and personal explanations has shown up the frauds of the mixers until our senators and congressmen were forced to take note of it. Another man, whose name has not appeared very much in connection with the bill, deserves great credit for the work he has done. We refer to A. J. Wedderburn, of Alexandria, Virginia. As Secretary of the National Pure Food Congress he has done very much indeed to promote the interest of pure food. There are many others, but we have not time nor space to give their names. What we want now is for every state in the union to pass a pure food law that is an exact duplicate of the national law, and then we will have uniformity, and one will be able to purchase what he asks for any place in the United States. We hope to see Missouri among the first to enact such a law and the Modern Farmer is ready to do everything possible to aid in the good work.

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At One Farmers' Meeting

By R. M. Washburn, State Dairy Commissioner.

It was a small gathering, a bad day and only five present. One of these was a slender boy of nineteen. He listened attentively and asked a few plain pointed questions. We had been discussing the raising of calves running with the cows, feeding skim milk and shelled corn. I had asked those present to be honest with themselves and test the matter. This boy went home and did so. His father an intelligent well read man and successful farmer for 40 years had never calculated the cost of raising a veal

calf although he raised from 15 to 25 a year. Several months ago this boy sent me his figures which are as follows: Those that ran with the cow, No. 1, made a net profit of \$1.73, No. 2, \$1.68, No. 3 a net loss of 33 cents and No. 4 a net loss of \$1.84.

He had figured the butter fat consumed at the price paid at the local creamery and the milk at 20 cents per hundred pounds. On the four there was a profit of \$1.24.

The young man then tested the matter of making veal of skim milk and grain. No. 1 gave a net profit of 45 cents, No. 2, \$1.42. The calves were short horn-holstein cross, ran with moth-

er for three days, then were gradually changed onto skim milk and grain. The grain was corn, oats and speltz, equal parts, same as fed to milking cows. He says he is well enough pleased with this method to continue because it leaves the cows in so much better shape for continuing in the working dairy. If the calf is allowed to run with the mother for five or six weeks the mother usually becomes so much attached to her baby that when it is sold away the cow will cry and roam about for a week holding up her milk and eating little. I have seen many cows injured and a few ruined by this unkind method of handling.



Corn Improvement-Final Cultivation of the Crop

P. E. CRABTREE, Hannon, Mo., Vice-Pres. Mo. State Corn Growers' Association.

And now comes July with its attendant duties and pleasures. We can partially understand how a farmer were he not pleasurably interested in his work, could consider the preparation of the ground and the cultivation of a corn crop an arduous task. Like the little boy when he was first told that he would have to dress and wash his face every morning of his life, the thought of it might discourage him. But as the boy later learned each duty was intermingled with accompanying pleasure and there was a time for all, just so with the farmer. Each week has brought forth its special duties and where we have cheerfully met them we have learned to enjoy our accomplishments even before the fruits of our labors are ready to be harvested.

Perhaps our deepest consideration for the month is the final cultivation of the corn crop. By final cultivation as here construed we mean the last time that we can use the two horse cultivator on this crop. If the ground is properly prepared and the first cultivation thoroughly accomplished we have had little trouble with weeds. The purpose of the two following cultivations was largely to prevent weeds that would have materialized and to have the surface soil loose and well supplied with the necessary moisture for this final cultivation. This latter should be accomplished when the moisture conditions are just right, neither too wet nor too

dry. It pays the farmer well, to a certain extent, to be ready and waiting for this special occasion. If he has cattle or hogs to market, horse trading or horse breaking to do he should plan far enough ahead to see that it does not interfere with this one job. The importance lies in the fact that the soil must then remain undisturbed for so long that the utility development of the crop is during this long period, and that whatever is done in the way of securing the dust mulch for the retention of moisture throughout the extremely hot weather depends almost wholly on the condition in which this final cultivation leaves the soil. It should be deferred as long as we feel safe to chance the weather conditions previous to any danger of breaking down corn of rank growth that we may disturb germinating weed seeds as late as possible, and until the ground is well shaded with the crop and also to shorten the period of whatever harrowing or single horse work is to follow between the rows. By all means make the final cultivation of the field in the direction that best permits surface drainage, otherwise sooner or later before husking time flat parts of the field will suffer from an accumulation of water. The object should be to permit the ground to absorb all the water it will contain when drainage is thoroughly provided for and no more.

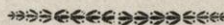
The condition I have just mentioned takes care of the surplus water. Now as to the oppo-

site condition. How can we best utilize the light shower and the quick dashing small rain? My plan is this. I prefer not to make a water shed of each row. Originally I was taught to ridge the rows decidedly after the fashion of sweet potato ridges. Careful experimenting has changed my method long since. With the ridging process the small rain is carried rapidly to the trench between rows and there a sufficient quantity will accumulate to form a little rivulet and thus leave the field long before the surface soil has become saturated. Then couple this condition with improper drainage and we have the doubly unfavorable conditions of "too dry on high grounds" and "too wet on low grounds," and both as a result of a shower that should have made the moisture conditions just right throughout. I endeavor to get just as nearly level cultivation as possible throughout the season except immediately in the row at this final cultivation. I can best describe the process by telling how I set the shovels. I use a six shovel cultivator. I set the shovels perfectly straight until the last time when I use a pair of warped shovels slightly angled next the row which throws up a small narrow ridge a few inches wide but leaves the remaining middles very

nearly level. This method I find secures the full benefits of the light shower or dashing rain and also leaves the middles in a splendid shape to be later agitated by means of the single horse expansion harrow.

Now as to the purpose of that little narrow ridge. Notice the brace-roots that are thrown out one, two or three joints above the ground; depending on the fertility of the soil and on whether the variety of corn is a grass feeder. Those brace-roots perform no office until they reach the ground when they immediately throw out a perfect net work of feeding rootlets and begin gathering fertility from the soil. I enjoy meeting them part way and setting them to work, hence, the purpose of the miniature ridge. I like to feed my corn crop. I admire the color of a field of corn that is abundantly supplied with plant food and furnished with sufficient moisture to hold said plant food in soluble form thus making it continually available.

I enjoy seeing my plants develop as I enjoy seeing my animals thrive and this final cultivation is one of the very important considerations. I make this cultivation shallow in order to avoid excessive root pruning.



Books= Periodicals

BY THE EDITOR.

We want this department to be of permanent value to our readers. We therefore, invite publishers to send us copies of books and Periodicals of special interest to farmers. They will receive careful attention in this department. Always mention THE MODERN FARMER when writing to publishers about any book or periodical mentioned here.

"Medical Talk," which we have mentioned a number of times in these columns, has been combined with "Health", of New York. Dr. Carr, who was the editor of Medical Talk, still writes for the combination, and the new management is making a very interesting and readable dollar magazine. The July issue opens with an article on farming by children in New York, which shows what can be done along this line, even in a large city.

As an earnest that there is to be no cessation of its campaign against child slavery, the Woman's Home Companion prints prominently in its August number the "Anti Child Labor Creed"—nine curt paragraphs clearly defining the faith and purpose of those who are fighting against the abuse of child labor. But that this serious purpose has not caused any neglect of entertaining features is shown by a collection

of lively stories such as "The Spurs of Jealousy," by Rafael Sabatini; "A Lover's Pilgrimage," by Richard Le Gallienne; "The Wage of Sin," by Ellis Parker Butler, and "Al and the Buzzard Perplexed," by Cloudesley Johns. "The Preserving and Canning of Fruits," "Fashionable Mid-Summer Clothes," and "Cool Cushions for Summer Use" are among the practical articles on household affairs.

We acknowledge receipt of a copy of the First Annual Report of the State Dairy Commissioner, which is free for the asking to citizens of Missouri, by addressing Prof. R. M. Washburn, Columbia, Mo. We are also in receipt of the 48th Annual Report of the Missouri State Horticultural Society, a copy of which can be had by addressing Sec. L. A. Goodman, Kansas City, Mo. Both of these reports will be found valuable to those who are interested.

The variety of pleasurable and profitable reading afforded by the always breezy magazine, "Recreation," is such as to amply bear out its claim of being "devoted to every thing the name implies."

A valuable series of hand books on topics of special interest to farmers is being published by the Orange Judd Company, of New York. One of the later ones, by Prof. Thomas Shaw, entitled "Clovers, How to Grow them", has been laid on our desk. It is a book of nearly 400 pages, and one that should be in the hands of every farmer who tries to keep abreast of the times and wants to know the last word on the subject that relates to the business in which he is engaged. Prof. Shaw is authority on any subject relating to agriculture. Price, \$1.00. For sale at this office on receipt, and for a short time we will include the Modern Farmer one year with every copy sold.

The August issue of Suggestion, a magazine for thinkers, devoted to mental science, thought power, practical psychology, hygiene, nature cure, etc., contains articles on drugless healing, physic research, life culture, osteopathy, and practical hygiene; the magazine tells how to be healthy with out drugs; how to form correct habits of thought, and how to live without doctors, worry or fear. It also deals with suggestive therapeutics and advanced thought topics generally.

Everybody's for August has an extremely interesting illustrated article on "Japan, the Economic Revolutionist", by M. Russell. He tells some very taking and remarkable things about these little people who have a way of doing things. "With the Procession" has this to say about the free alcohol bill: "If the removal by act of Congress of the tax on denatured alcohol produces all the beneficial results expected, light, heat and power in many

general and useful applications are going to be a great deal cheaper. The odious smell of gasoline will vex the nostrils no more. Kerosene will be an expensive illuminant in comparison. We shall wash, iron, drive on land and water, read, plow, harrow, and generally live and move by means of denatured alcohol. Doubtless there was some exaggeration in the "claims" of its friends, but much has been done with it in Germany, and the petitions of all sorts of persons and interests for the removal of the tax showed how wide was the expectation of good results from free denatured alcohol."

The July number of Farming, published by Doubleday, Page & Company, is a revelation in agricultural literature.

The leading article on Alfalfa states exactly what this crop is, and how the whole farming system of the West has been reorganized to meet its demands. It can some-

times be cut seven times a year.

"The Truth About Angora Goats" tells of their value on Western ranges, but it will probably disillusion the city man who has dreamed of goats as a sure way of making money on some Eastern farm.

In "The Possibilities of Dry Farming," the story of the reclamation of arid America is told. It describes how crops may be grown where the average rainfall is only seven inches a year.

HE WAS REAL INDUSTRIOUS
[From "Success Magazine."]

Two Washington negroes meeting in the street fell into a discussion of the peculiarities of a mutual friend. Said one: "What kind o' a pusson is dat man anyhow? Seems to me he never do no work."

"Oh, he is industrious, all right," promptly responded the second negro, "even if he don't do nothin' hisself. Why, only las' week dat man spent two whole days tryin' to git his wife a job!"

The Farmer's Home

By Emma Ingoldsby Abbott.

A happy, prosperous home means a happy prosperous country

JUST AN OLD-FASHIONED WOMAN
She's just an old-fashioned woman, who attends to her duties as they come,

Without any noise or fuss about it;
She is kind and neighborly and lends a hand in work or play;
She is the idol of her household and her dominion is home,
Where she reigns by the divine power of love,

And her heart never grows old.

—David M. Johnson
in Drovers' Journal.

Condiments stimulate the digestive organs in hot weather and should be used more freely at this season than in cold weather.

Do not stint the supply of fruit for the table this hot weather. It is cooling and laxative and keeps the system in better condition to withstand the heat.

Put away your recipes for rich pastry and cakes until cooler weather. Fresh fruits do not need a crust of lard and flour or a biscuit dough to make them appetizing, and they will not tax the digestive powers so heavily.

When custard is cooked too long and curdles it is usually supposed to be spoiled, but the Texas Farmer gives a way to redeem it. It says: "Take a bowl full of it at a time and

beat with a patent egg-beater until creamy."

I have had good success canning beans by cooking them in the cans six hours—thought I had to, but here comes Ruth Fletcher in the Journal of Agriculture, who declares that her's kept perfectly when boiled only thirty minutes. If this is the case, there has been considerable time and fuel wasted at our house.

Too many housekeepers make the mistake of leaving coffee and tea grounds in the pot, merely adding more when making a fresh supply. If coffee and tea are injurious, as some claim, this would increase the danger, as the tannic acid, which is the objectionable principle, is not drawn out with the first boiling, but would be in full strength in the old grounds, to be mixed with that freshly boiled. Besides, to one who knows a good cup of coffee, a fresh granite ware pot, freshly ground coffee and water freshly boiled are the three requisites; and an earthenware teapot, scalded out, and water in its first boil to be poured over the grounds, are the things needful for a good cup of tea.

Sweet pickled peaches that will keep for years, may be made by the following receipt: Peel a gallon of peaches (clings are best); then heat one quart of vinegar in which is dissolved four pounds of sugar. Add one-half ounce each of whole cloves and stick cinna-

mon; when this boils pour over the peaches and cover closely; the next morning pour off, heat to boiling and pour over the peaches again. Repeat the third morning, but the fourth morning put peaches and all over the fire and cook until the fruit can be easily pierced by a broom straw. Pack the peaches in glass fruit jars and continue boiling the syrup until boiled down one-half. Pour over the peaches and screw down the tops while hot. They will be ready to eat at once.

ABOUT BACTERIA.

Our grandmothers would have been very much astonished at the discoveries of science and invention since their day, and would, no doubt, have been amused at many of the ways of the beginning of the 20th century, but nothing was farther from their thought than the new ideas about bacteria.

Many things that were considered mysterious in the extreme and that could only be laid at the door of Providence, are as plain as daylight in the light of the discoveries of the microscope.

Flies were considered merely a nuisance, while now they are known to be positively dangerous to health, and many a case of fever that had an unknown origin might be traced to flies that had carried the germs from an infected locality.

Physicians declare that every disease has its own peculiar microbe, and

when that is discovered, it is only necessary to find what will kill the microbe, without killing the patient, and a cure is assured. We are all the time being warned as to some habit or practice, that it is unhygienic, and it seems that the duties of a doctor will in time come to be to warn people away from disease rather than to pull them out after they are in the slough. The Chinese idea is not so far wrong, since they pay their doctors a certain sum yearly to keep them well, and when they get sick, the pay stops until the patient is well again. The only trouble about this is that we would after a while get in the condition of the man who ate health foods until he was so full of health that he could not die, and had to stop up his nose and smother himself to death to get out of

the world.

Even now it is said that old age is a disease caused by a microbe, and some physicians claim that sour milk will kill this microbe, and that with plenty of sour milk in the diet a man should be as active at ninety as at fifty.

The microscope has given us a warning against the indiscriminate use of towels, combs and brushes, as many diseases of skin and scalp are transmitted in this way. Each member of the family should have his or her own comb and brush, as well as tooth brush, and under no circumstances should a person traveling use a comb or brush that has been placed for public use in toilet rooms anywhere. When visiting, one should carry these articles for personal use.

And now comes a later word that the use of a clothes brush in the house is dangerous, since it dislodges dust that has been brought into the house on clothing that has been liable to catch germs of disease from many sources, and sets them flying about the house. On this account it would seem more sensible, as well as healthful, to brush the clothes in the open air.

There is one sure way to guard against dangers from disease germs. Pure air and sunlight are death to them, while unventilated and dirty rooms are their breeding place. Cleanliness and plenty of pure air night and day in the house, and regular bathing by all of the family, will go a long way toward warding off disease among old and young.

The Farm in General



BY E. J. WATERSTRIP

There is no use in the farmer thinking that he must put in 12 to 15 hours for a day's work. What do you gain by doing it?

Do not worry yourself to death about "the good old times of the past" but try to make the present what it should be, and plan for the future.

Every day you should do some thinking about farm fertility; it is the most important question of the farm. Every day you can do something to increase the fertility of the soil.

Which one of you city friends said that "farm life was so lonely?" How do you know? What would you give for a buggy ride? For lots of fresh fruit and etc.? We have them at pleasure. Lonely? How?

Fall is as good time as Spring to set out fruit trees. Get good trees and plan to give them good care in the future. This is the only way to have nature's medicine—fruit, to keep setting out trees; it does not take long to get your reward.

Why not get an oil stove for your wife to use during the hot weather? It would take something to take the one out of this home. Oil is cheaper than wood and easier to handle. And there is no use of having extra heat in the house when not needed.

Now, brother farmer, if you want some real good feed to winter the horses on, and the finest feed for any stock during winter, just haul some of those oats before threshing into the barn or build a stack near the feeding place. Some fine feed, I repeat.

We are fast getting through with the farm implements for this year, and they need some better place to winter than the fence corner. If there is any possible way, have a place for each

tool under some shelter, and you will know where it is next spring, and will know that it will be in as good shape as you left it.

Not one quarter of the farmers who use one, take proper care of the mowing machine. We cannot fully see why this is. It is important that the machine be in good running order, and the only way to have it good is to keep it good. The main object should be to watch both ends of the pitman and see that they are kept tight.

What are you doing towards increasing the boy's interest in farming—higher and better farming? Are you interested as you should be? If not, do not blame the boy if he wants to always be going to the city. Aim to run the farm on business principles and the boy's interest will increase. We do not blame many of the boys.

Under your present system of farming is your farm paying interest on itself and giving a profit? If not change your method and do some way

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YOU will find, first of all, that the I. H. C. spreaders handle all kinds of manure satisfactorily, under all conditions.

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Are you disposed favorably toward some feature of another machine? You will find no device or contrivance essential to right spreading of manure but that is employed in its best form on the I. H. C. spreaders.

And you will find features on the I. H. C.

spreaders that you will find on no other spreaders.

Look at the vibrating rake which levels your load and brings manure up square to the cylinder. No other spreader has this device and yet you absolutely cannot spread manure uniformly without it.

Examine the superb steel wheels, broad tires, staggered spokes, clutches in both hind wheels, front ones cutting under for short turning.

The one lever, convenient to your right hand, is far more desirable than a different lever for every movement to be made.

These are but simple suggestions. Are they not worth looking into? There are lots of other points just as important. That's why we say, compare the I. H. C. spreaders with other spreaders before you buy.

These spreaders are made in three sizes for each of the two types, Cloverleaf, endless apron, and Corn King, return apron, and meet requirements of all sections and all classes of work.

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(INCORPORATED)

that it will, but in figuring whether the farm pays or not there are many things to consider; remember it has been a home to you and that would cost much in the city. Consider all things.

What improvements are you going to make on the farm this fall? This is a good time to do all improving as work is not pressing and the weather is good for it. I would say if you are

thinking of building a barn, plan to put it up right, even if it does cost a little more; it will be cheaper in the end. Use the same rule with all improvements.

By N. J. Shepherd.

Farm Poultry

It pays to keep the very best.

More than half of early maturity is in high feeding.

Ducks will not lay regularly if they are plucked regularly.

Never buy breeding stock or fancy eggs for their cheapness.

With proper exercise there is not much liability of the fowls being over-fat.

Lime, gravel and bone should be kept where the fowls can help themselves.

Growing chickens and laying hens should be well supplied with bones or shells.

Egg eating is a habit that can be cured only by killing the hen. It is contagious.

A pound of poultry can be grown at less cost than a pound of beef, and it is worth more.

Clean dirt is a first-class disinfectant and purifier, and so long as it is dry and friable can hardly be used to excess.

Introduce new blood into the flesh every year by either buying cockerels or a setting of eggs from a reliable breeder.

Fowls affected with contagious diseases may be predisposed beforehand, and though cured should not be used for breeding.

Guinea fowls are good layers, and when not too old their flesh is tender and pleasant to the taste, but darker than chickens.

A dark nest is a hen's choice every time. A nest on the floor is preferable to one where the hen is compelled to fly up to reach it.

Liberal feeding means liberal profits. As a rule, feed well or kill the flock. Oats may be fed as a change as often as twice a week.

Never breed from immature fowls, no matter how handsome or perfect in looks they may be. Continued early breeding is taking the very heart and life out of pure bred stock.

Mate up your fowls early, for occasionally one of the hens will want to sit during the latter part of winter, and it is a nice thing to have some

eggs ready in order to hatch some chicks early in the spring.

Feed systematically two or three times a day. Scatter the food so that the fowls cannot eat too fast, or without proper exercise.

A quiet sitter makes a docile mother, and usually better success in hatching, for she will sit close and this is always essential to success.

Do not undertake to keep too many hens at a time. A few well cared for is better than a large number left to look out for themselves.

A male or female is called a chicken when hatched. As soon as it becomes old enough to tell the sex it is a cock-

erel or pullet, and when it is one year old it is a cock or hen.

Tame hens sit and lay better, and fowls of all kinds fatten better when not subject to sudden fright, as is often the case with those that are tame.

It is rather poor economy to cram fifty cents worth of drugs down the throat of a sick chicken that would not be worth over a quarter, if it were well.

Pullets and two-year-old hens are the most profitable. After a hen is three years old she becomes unprofitable as an egg producer, and is rather tough for table use.

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- New Wool Waistings—In handsome plaid and dot effects, latest colorings per yd. 50c
- New Fancy suitings—In the popular gray effects in shadow checks and broken plaids stripes, etc.; 36 inches wide, per yard. 50c

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The Trail of a Valentine

By HOWARD FIELDING

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IT was a surprise to Mr. Bailey that the office of a detective agency should present an aspect so wholesome and so ordinary. He had pictured it a shabby den of tricksters whose trade was deservedly ill paid, and he had come upon an impulse wholly at variance with the usual currents of his life, dreading to be seen on such an errand and slinking in at the street door in the manner of a man who makes his first distressful visit to a pawn shop.

Mr. Bailey was one of those men in whose knowledge of life there are blank spaces. In his case these gaps were due to obstinacy. When he had a prejudice against a person, a place or an occupation he seemed deliberately to cultivate ignorance and to shun information, as if upon a scruple of conscience. Because of this peculiarity his notion of a detective's share in the world's activities had become constantly more absurd from the day when he first attempted to dissuade a certain young man from choosing that profession. To this young man he had now come as a client, surely at the spur of no small need.

Upon the receipt of Mr. Bailey's card Harley Bertrand dropped a half read letter and made all haste to usher in his visitor. The obvious sincerity of the welcome went far to relieve Mr. Bailey of embarrassment, and the businesslike appearance of the inner office helped still further to put him at his ease.

"Harley," said he, somewhat in the manner of the old days when he was legal guardian to Bertrand and distantly affectionate—"Harley, I'm glad to see you so well situated. You must be getting on."

"Pretty well, I thank you, Uncle John," responded Bertrand. "And how is it with you? At least you've grown no older in the year since I've seen you."

"It needn't have been so long," said Bailey. "I'm afraid you took our differences too much to heart and thought that I—er— Well, you might have known that I didn't want you to stop coming to the house."

"It's very kind of you to say so."

"I'm frank and outspoken," continued Bailey defensively, "and I don't like your occupation. That's a fact that can't be altered, but we needn't quarrel about it. We'll be debarred from that in future anyway, because I've come to consult you professionally, which may seem to put me out of the argument."

"Unless I fail to help you," said Bertrand.

"Well, I'm bound to admit that if you fail I can't blame you," responded Bailey. "I'm prepared to hear you say at



"I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU SO WELL SITUATED," once that the thing is impossible. It's a matter of some delicacy and one that I couldn't discuss with a stranger."

Bertrand looked dubiously across the desk at the white haired, ruddy old man, who was beginning with nervous fingers to unloose the cord around a square, thin packet. When the wrapping was removed there appeared a frame of white cardboard with a design in colors and gilt inclosing a photograph which upon inspection proved to be a reproduction of a detail from a painting of Chartran's, a Brittany peasant girl holding a bridal veil in her hands.

"This thing seems to be a valentine," said the detective, "if one may judge by the design upon the frame."

"That's what it is," responded Bailey, "and a fine one, as you'll admit. My daughter got it by mail yesterday, and I want you to find out who sent it."

Bertrand's mouth and eyes expressed a painful amazement.

"This is indeed a—a somewhat delicate matter, as you intimated," he said. "May I ask whether Charlotte has ex-



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pressed a wish that I should do this? Doesn't she know who sent it?"

"She says she doesn't."

"I shall ask for no further evidence on that point," responded Bertrand. "But there was another question"—

"No. She hasn't expressed a wish that you should investigate this matter. She doesn't know that it is being investigated. But I am doing only my plain duty in trying to find out whether this is the beginning of further attentions on the part of young Steve Temple. I knew his father for a rascal; I know the son for another. I sent him about his business once, and I am prepared to do it again."

"Pardon me for saying that I think you took too serious a view of this matter a year ago," said Bertrand, with hesitation. "I did not believe at that time that Charlotte felt any deeper sentiment than a certain natural recognition of the fact that Temple is a very handsome fellow. He has the gift of fascination."

"He has the gift of all the vices that disgrace humanity," said Bailey, with decision. "He inherited them. But this is not prejudice on my part. I looked him up. I know him to the backbone."

"What reason have you for supposing that Temple sent this?"

"It looks foreign to me, and he's been abroad. He has just got back. No other young man of Charlotte's acquaintance has been across the water. I think

Publisher's Department.

We are willing to do all we can to make the ads of our patrons attractive, but no free "readers" will be given to anyone.

We have no editorial opinions for sale at any price.

All advertising must be paid in advance when satisfactory references are not furnished, and then collections will be made monthly, and all bills are due as soon as a copy of the paper containing the ad is received. Send references when you send your ad and save time. We want them to protect our readers as well as ourselves. If you do not pay your bills promptly, we do not want your patronage.

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Department C MACON, MO.

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Dairy Notes

By N. J. SHEPHERD.

Butter is the only product which does not deplete the soil.

Few farmers are so situated as to keep cows only to raise calves.

If winter dairying is to be made a success, the cows must be fresh in the fall.

Never mix sweet cream with cream to be churned less than twelve hours before churning.

A cow overfed will not digest all of her food, thus injuring her milk and the butter made from it.

The perfect butter is firm, fine grained, of a rich golden color, sweet, and with a nutty flavor.

Thorough scalding is the only sure way to destroy the decaying particles that adhere to the milk vessels.

While a routine way of doing things saves time, we must improve upon that routine whenever possible.

Any improvement in dairying that will lessen the cost of production will sum up the same as increased price.

Dairying is dairying, and beef making is beef making. Mixing them is too expensive for the small farmer.

The milking organs must be developed the first time the heifer is in milk if she is to prove a good milker afterward.

The true type of a dairy cow is that which furnishes the most and best of any commercial products at the lowest cost.

The best method to obtain perfect granulation is to have the cream well aired and churn at the first stages of acidity.

While wheat bran is a good feed for milch cows, it should always be fed with stronger grain to secure the best results.


If a dairy cow is properly fed and cared for she will do her best, but she will never do all that she is capable of without good care.

As a rule, if a cow does not prove to be a good dairy animal, after she drops her second calf, the chances are that she never will.

The dairy farm should grow continually richer, and it will not do otherwise unless carelessness is the rule of management.

In breeding cows for the dairy, select the best and breed them to a sire from a butter-making family. Use only a thoroughbred bull, remembering that the bull will impress upon his offspring either his own likeness or that of his ancestors.

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Farm Beekeeping By the Editor.

Now is a good time to Italianize your apiary. Queens are cheaper now than at any other season of the year, and with proper care they can be introduced about as well as at any other time.

If you think you will need any new hives next year, better buy them now. Most dealers give a liberal discount in the fall. The publisher of this paper expects to move his place of business, and from now on until that time he will sell hives at prices that can never be duplicated. Say how many and what kind you want and ask for prices.

If your bees have their supers full of white honey, do not leave it in the hive, as it will grow darker from the bees running over it, and then it is not a good plan to have the dark fall honey mixed with the light honey gathered from clover, basswood and sweet clover. Put your honey in shipping cases and keep it in a dry, warm place. If there are no cells filled with pollen, "bee bread," there is not much danger from the moth worms. If they do get into your honey, it should be smoked at once with sulphur. Some use bisulphide of carbon for the same purpose. It is poured into an open dish and set on top of the honey. The fumes will settle down and kill every worm, if it is in a tight room. It is very inflammable and therefore very dangerous, and for that reason we do not recommend its use.

One of our readers, near Grand Island, Nebr., has sent us, by express, a tall stalk of sweet clover to convince us, we presume, that it is not fit for forage. Of course it is not, for the stalk at its largest part is a half-inch through, if not more. We have seen plenty of sweet clover as large or larger than this, but it does not prove that nothing will eat sweet clover. We could not expect a horse or cow to eat wood. You just as well hold up before us a mature stalk of asparagus to prove that it is not fit for human food. Of course it is not, but there is a time when it is considered a dainty dish on any table. If sweet clover is to be used for a forage crop, it must be sowed so thick it will not grow such large stalks, and then be cut at the proper time. The editor of the Modern Farmer is now driving a mare that will crop the bloom off of these large stalks whenever she is stopped where she can reach them, but he would not think of recommending sweet clover in this style of growth as a forage crop. Neither would he recommend timothy after the seed is ripened, as horses will not eat the stalks, and if they would, it would not be of any

more benefit to them than that much shavings. There is a time and place for everything, and there is also a time to cut any kind of forage to get the best results.

A few days ago we had a very striking illustration of what we have often said of the relation of the so-called middleman to the honey crop and other crops. We were on our wagon and had a boy on each side selling peaches, not because we wanted the middleman's profit, but because we

could not sell to the middleman at any price. We had to sell them in this way or let them rot. As we could clear \$5 or \$6 per day by making a market, and at the same time give employment to some needy boys, we went out and made them sell. We found another man doing the same thing and went over to see what he had. We found that he was selling comb honey, and when we asked him the price, he astonished us by saying 10c per section. We bought some of his honey and told

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GUS DITTMER, : Augusta, Wis.

him he would better take his honey home than to sell it at that price. If he had spent 1c per pound to crate his honey, no middleman would have offered him less than 12½ cents for it, and he would have had 1½ cents per pound to the good, and saved all his trouble of going from house to house. Yet he was selling it a section at a time for 10 cents and the women were dickering with him, trying to get three for 25 cents. Here was a young man who knew how to produce a crop, but did not know how to market it. In the first place, he was not posted as to the value of the article he wanted to sell, and in the second place, he was not selling it in a good part of the city. He was among people who wanted to buy things cheap, and this was the reason we had gone there to close out our peaches in preference to taking them home to rot. He was also making the mistake of trying to force a product on the market out of season that he could keep as well as not. Everyone knows that these mistakes are not marks of good salesmanship, and it would be better for him to confine his energies to production, and let the middleman have his profit on what he produces.

THE HONEY SEASON.

It is not often we reproduce in the Modern Farmer an article which has appeared in another paper, especially in this department, but the following from the pen of A. H. Duff, in that excellent paper, the Kansas Farmer, contains so many valuable hints and suggestions that we gladly vary our rule and reproduce it in full.

Because comb foundation comes a trifle high, it is best not to be stingy with it when filling the section-boxes. Put in a good-sized starter, if you have a good quality of light foundation, and this you surely ought to have. Foundation that is too heavy, or that is of a poor quality, will produce a core in the center of the comb, which is considered an objection. The natural base of the honeycomb is as thin as the thinnest of tissue paper, and many honey-producers use but a very small starter of foundation in the section on this account. But I think the gain in using large starters in pounds of honey overcomes the objections on the other side, if we are careful to use first-class, light foundation, and let the bees have it at the proper time.

I have used starters of all sizes, from a mere starter to full sections, and prefer the sections at least half filled. Success largely depends on knowing just when to put a crate of sections on the hive. It is a mistake to put on sections before the bees are ready for them. We should be governed by two conditions: (1) the colony must be strong enough; (2) honey must be coming in in sufficient quantity to enable the bees to begin work at once. The brood-frames, of course, should be

full of brood and honey, the honey being capped over with new cappings. A colony will thus not disappoint you, and a fine lot of comb-honey will be the result if the honey flow continues. Do not allow the thought to enter

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your mind that placing a crate of sections on a colony, as described above, is all that is needed for that particular colony for some time to come, for this is the most fatal mistake. If the bees go to work at once in these sections, and they should, of course, they will have them half filled in three or four days, when you should promptly add another crate of sections, and thus have them working in both crates at the same time, and use not less than two crates continuously throughout the honey season.

If bees do not occupy the sections at once, or inside of twenty-four hours, you must use means to induce them. Driving them up in the crate with smoke, by gently smoking them below, will often start them, but perhaps the best thing to do is to use bait sections in the crate; that is, put in a few sections containing honey. This will never fail, if the conditions are right otherwise. When both crates are nearly filled, take them off and take out all completed sections; fill in all sections not finished into one of the crates, fill out with empty sections, and place back on the hive, always keeping the full crate on top.

Take off all honey promptly, when it is well finished and capped over, for to allow it to remain on the hive will give it a tainted appearance, and it will not look so clean, white, and crisp as it is at first. All comb-honey becomes bee stained more or less if it remains long in the hive. Keep all comb-honey in a dry place, but never put it in a cellar; the garret is far better. It should be in a high, dry place, with plenty of light; never in the dark. Heat will not injure it if not extremely exposed.

Contract your surplus capacity nearing the close of the honey season, and if you are not an expert in guessing when the close will likely be, you will soon learn by noting closely year after year the season your principal crop of blossoms open and close, the conditions of the weather, the effect it will have, etc. Condense everything down to single crates, and get as nearly all sections completed as possible. If you are not careful about this, you will end up with a large number of half-filled sections. It is not a loss by any means to have some partly filled sections on hand, providing you carry them safely over until the next season, for you can use them for bait sections in getting an early start the next season.

Use shipping crates to store your section honey in, whether you intend to ship it or not, for this is the best way to preserve it.

Foundation-comb is the beekeeper's money-maker. Do not spare it in the brood-chamber, but fill every frame full of it. Be very careful how you fix it in the frames. Let the comb swing clear of the bottom of frame

one-half inch, and at the ends one-fourth of an inch. It will stretch comb will be buckled and out of more or less, as the bees work it, and shape. It is always best to wire it in

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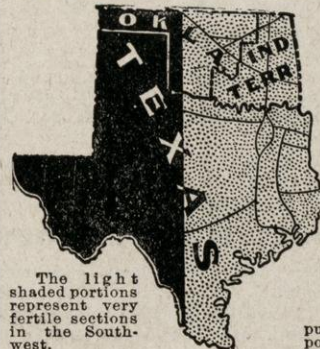
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the frames, but will answer if fastened firmly at the top, and not exposed to extreme heat when a swarm is hived upon it. A heavy swarm on a very warm day will pull the comb all down on the bottom board in an ugly mess, if exposed to the hot sun. It is proper to shade all hives after hiving swarms in them, and give a large entrance for ventilation. When bees swarm, they fill themselves with honey to the utmost limit, and thus can not endure extremely close confinement. Put little blocks under the corners of the hives for the time being, and thus give them plenty of air.

Every one should be acquainted with the honey flow in his locality, and know just how to strike while the iron is hot. Localities differ greatly as to the flora. White clover, sweet clover, and basswood rule in most localities, although there are numerous other honey-bearing plants that furnish the bulk of the surplus where the above do not abound. We catch the most of it from the middle of May until the last of June, but almost any of the principal flowers may be continued a week or two on account of favorable weather. There is no better honey-plant than sweet clover, and this often lasts until the last of July or even later.

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The Trail of a Valentine

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Temple bought this on the other side and brought it over with him."

Bertrand examined the frame.

"The anatomy of these Cupids suggests Germany surely," said he.

"Temple's been there," said Bailey.

There was a plain, thin sheet of paper which was folded like a cover protecting the frame and the photograph. Bertrand held it up to the light and pointed out to Bailey two letters, "E. G.," unmistakably German.

"That's evidence," declared Bailey; "but, of course, it doesn't really prove anything. I can't open my mouth without having something more definite. But how to get it? This valentine was mailed in this city. I saw the post-mark on the envelope. But there's no way of finding out who mailed it. The address was typewritten."

Bertrand spent half a minute in meditation, rubbing his yellow hair into a strange tangle meanwhile. Then he slowly walked to the steam radiator in the corner and laid the valentine upon it.

"There is another point," said he. "You may remember that about a year ago your cousin, Mrs. Ewing, was visiting you just after returning from abroad. She had a photographic reproduction of the picture of which we have here a detail. Charlotte cared very little for the picture as a whole, but she admired this particular figure."

"I remember," said Bailey. "She tried to find a large photograph of the painting in this city, but couldn't. It is the likeliest thing in the world that she told Temple and that he found this somewhere in Europe."

"My excellent alleged uncle," said Bertrand, smiling, "there is no difficulty at all in the matter. Barring the luck which may defeat the invincible, nullify certainties and—to all intents and purposes, for you and me—prevent the sun from rising tomorrow I will show you the way to obtain positive proof as to who sent this valentine, and I'll do it without rising from my chair.

"Now, then, in the first place, we'll consult the valentine itself. How was it made?"

"Bless your soul!" cried Bailey. "I don't know anything about the technical details of getting up such a thing."

"You can see, however, that it never was made to hold this photograph. There's nothing to hold it. It's pasted on, and very crudely. Didn't that strike your eye? See how neatly all the rest of it is got up. Contrast that with the pasting. What do you make of it?"

"Well, I don't know; really, I don't

know," repeated Bailey, alternately peering at the back of the valentine and at the face of the detective.

"There was another picture here originally," said Bertrand. "It was attached in a different way from this one. The frame was made in two parts, back and front. The picture was laid between them, and they were glued together. If you look closely you can see that that picture was cut out with the sharp point of a penknife probably, and then this one was affixed to the back so that it shows all right from the other side. It was done very recently, long after the original valentine was made."

"Eh?" said Bailey. "How do you know that?"

"The paste is not thoroughly dry. The heat of the radiator has wrinkled the edges of the photograph even with only a few minutes' trial. But the heat has had no effect upon the older portion.

"If the man had bought the picture and the frame aboard he would have done this work long ago. Indeed, with so much time at his disposal he probably would have had some more skillful workman do it for him. I infer that the idea of sending this picture as a valentine came to him suddenly at the last moment and that he hunted through the stores for a frame that would fit it. That means that the frames were imported by some firm in this country, most probably in this city. There are only a very few in that line of business. It will take us only a little while to talk to them by telephone."

This task Bertrand delegated to an assistant, who within twenty minutes gave him the name of the firm importing the valentines of which the frame in question was a part and a list of nine stores where they were sold at retail.

"But the clerk won't remember," objected Bailey. "In the rush of this valentine business how will a salesman be able to tell who bought one of these things? Probably a dozen or more were sold."

"Our particular purchaser," said Bertrand, "was looking not merely for a pretty valentine, but for one into which this photograph could be fitted. Undoubtedly he carried the photograph with him and told the salesman what he was hunting for. That will fix the purchaser in the salesman's memory. At any rate, we'll try."

He called up four of the stores without result, but from the fifth he obtained a favorable reply.

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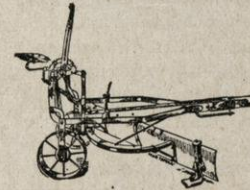
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HOW TO AVOID COLDS

"There is a simple means by which danger of contracting colds may be minimized," says Dr. A. S. Barnes, Jr., in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat, "and that is by breathing deeply four or five times on going from a warm interior into the cold outer air and when standing in some exposed position, such as a street corner, while waiting for a car, and so forth. It is quite a common thing for a person suffering from a cold to say that he doesn't understand how the cold was contracted, but it is often the result of rushing out into the cold air from a warm room with the overcoat not fastened, while standing still exposed to the wind or from sitting in a draft that may not always be noticeable. Colds originating from such causes as these are the sort that people do not understand how they ever contracted them. Even when warmly clad and apparently properly protected, colds may be contracted by a sudden and marked change of temperature to which the person subjects himself, but it would never arise in this way if the precaution of breathing very deeply four or five times immediately upon feeling the cold air was observed.

"The act of breathing in this manner causes the blood to flow with renewed rapidity through the body, and this effectually prevents that congestion of the circulation in any part until after the body has become accustomed to the lower temperature outside. Even after a person has felt the sudden chill which frequently marks the advent of a cold, deep breathing promptly indulged in will often restore the circulation to its normal condition in that portion of the body where the congestion has occurred and thus drive away the cold. A cold, roughly speaking, is really nothing more than a congested condition of the circulation, extending over a greater or less area in some part of the body; therefore anything which tends to quicken the circulation when the circumstances are such that it might be retarded by a chill striking the body will help materially to prevent this very thing. Breathing, deep breathing, is a better thing for this purpose than almost anything else which might be suggested and has the merit of attracting no attention to the individual while engaged in a health fortifying exercise."

How to Trim Your Hat.

However cheap your hat may be—and often a cheap one answers every purpose—let the ribbons, flowers, feathers, jet, etc., which form its trimming be as good as you can possibly afford, since this is true economy in the long run, says the New Orleans Times-Dem-

ocrat. When tired of a hat, remove the trimming, brush it, free it from dust and put it away. It will emerge in a few months and do its duty nobly once again. Every home milliner should possess a bit box, where all these articles can be stored, and this would prove a veritable boon and blessing to a large family of girls, since perhaps what Mary has finished with will be just the one thing which Maud will consider indispensable. One of the first aims in millinery is to accomplish the production of a really smart ribbon bow, and this requires practice. The chief thing is to get the knot as small and tight as possible and then pull out the loops and ends firmly. Always endeavor to get the loops, or bows, to stand up without artificial support, and where the ribbon is of good quality this is quite easy. When doubtful as to the style to adopt in the trimming of a hat a little time spent examining models in some good milliner's window will give the girl of artistic tastes ample ideas, and then, having mastered the materials required, let her take an excursion to the dry goods windows and see where similar goods may be had best and cheapest, for the price of millinery and the various items comprising it varies more than anything else.

How to Renovate Chiffon.

Chiffon if not too badly soiled may be cleaned by brushing carefully with powdered starch and borax, two parts of the former to one of the latter, says the Pittsburg Press. Spread the chiffon on some clean surface and rub over several times with the mixture, using a soft cloth or brush. Shake free of the soiled powder each time. After going over it several times in this way fill the chiffon with clean powder and leave for a day or two where it will be free from dust. When this last application is removed the chiffon should be fresh and clean. Chiffon is a very difficult material to clean, but dry processes are invariably more satisfactory than those which necessitate wetting the material. It will sometimes answer quite well to use benzine or gasoline,

but there is always the danger of pulling it out of shape, and there is rarely any crispness left after such cleaning.

How to Make a Good Mouth Wash.

A good mouth wash can be made at home for a trifling cost as follows: Dissolve two ounces of borax in three pints of boiling water. Before quite cold add a teaspoonful of tincture of myrrh and a tablespoonful of good eau de cologne or spirits of camphor. Half fill a tumbler with this solution and add sufficient water to fill it up. Use this wash daily after each meal, and you will find your teeth are preserved and whitened.

How to Make Scrapbook Paste.

To make a paste for scrapbooks dissolve slowly in water a piece of common glue two inches square, adding as much alum in powder as glue. Then work half a teaspoonful of flour into a paste with a little cold water. Stir all together and boil till dissolved. When almost cold add a teaspoonful of oil of cloves or lavender.

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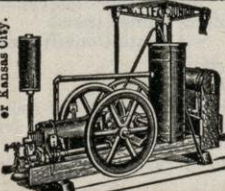
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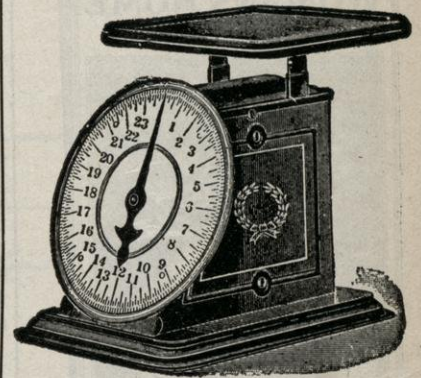
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The Mayflower25
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The Mayflower25
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The Mayflower25
Poultry Tribune50
All one year for 50 cents	

GEMS OF POETRY

Country Life.

This country life is fine for those
Who willingly will take it,
But, having tried it for a day,
I'm now about to shake it.

At sundown every living thing
For lodging quickly searches;
The good folk hunt their downy beds,
The fowl their farmyard perches.

I miss the buzz of trolley cars;
I miss the corner loafer;
I'm nervous from the sighing breeze;
I fear the humble gopher.

The most exciting sound one hears—
A cow or two a-mooing!
I'm going back to town again,
Where something's always doing!
—Buffalo Express.

A Song of Motherhood.

As my own mother used to comfort me—
Kissing the tears away,
Holding me close—aye, all too close for
scbs—
I hold thee, Kittle dear one, close today!

Calming my older pain by stilling thine
As mothers only know,
My heartbreak lost in thine as hers in
mine—
Long ago, little dear one, long ago.

As thou in turn, a woman grown and wise,
Shall kiss, as I kiss now,
Finding the sunrise ever in thy child,
Even thou, little dear one, even thou!
—Martha Herbert Dickinson in Scribner's.

Bonnets at Billville.

The bonnets down at Billville, they're
plain as preachin' still,
An' they ain't no bill collectors for to
blast you with a bill.
They're homemade millinery, with jest
a string or two
Of ribbon round the dimpled cheeks where
roses bloom for you.

The bonnets down at Billville, they're
candid like an' plain
As the message of the sunshine that
shimmers in the rain;
No followin' of fashion, but fram'in' faces
sweet
As a dream of that fair country where
the Easter angels meet.

Oh, bonnets bright of Billville, we love
you for the grace
That ripples in the ribbons in the rose
wreathed meetin' place!
But more than all we love you for the
faces sweet an' fair
That light the world like heaven—till
heaven seems dreamin' there!
—Atlanta Constitution.

Our Tasks.

For what we cannot do God never asks;
Beyond what we can bear he never tries,
In sweet fulfillment of the little tasks
We make our preparation for the skies.

The restless heart seeks to do something
great
And lets the common things of life slip
by,
Forgetting that the trifles indicate
Which path we're taking for eternity.
—London Sunday School Times.

All mankind are students. How to live
And how to die forms the great lesson
still.

—Bailey.

Read our advertisements. They are all
clean and will not corrupt the morals of
our children.